

The Canal Zone

Philatelist



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Whole No. 181

Cristobal, CZ Paper Registry Exchange Labels Revisited by George R. Campbell

There was considerable confusion and delay in implementing the Registry Service in the early days of U.S. effort on the Canal Zone. Post offices were established in June, 1904, and stamps were issued in denominations corresponding to the registry fee in 1904, e.g., Scott Nos. 7, 14, 15. Nevertheless, registration of mail matter on the Zone did not get underway until August, 1905. This and other aspects of the early Canal Zone Registry Service have been well documented by Tom Brougham in a series of articles in *The Canal Zone Philatelist* [1-4].

One of the early points of confusion related to the handling of registered mail destined for outside the Canal Zone. In correspondence between Canal Zone Director of Posts, Tom Cooke, and Washington, D.C., the Cristobal Post Office was eventually established as an "Exchange Office" for the dispatch of outbound registered mail. This apparently occurred in September, 1905 [2]. From this time until about January 24, 1911, the Cristobal Exchange Office applied a handstamp or a printed label, a number, and a postmark to all registered mail leaving the Zone [3]. The exchange label or handstamp was



Fig. 1 Type 1 label on recently reported cover

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typically in the form of a horizontal rectangle containing a large "R" at the left, followed by three horizontal lines, with "United States of America" at the top; the exchange office (Cristobal) in the middle; and the registry number at the bottom. Two types of printed paper Cristobal labels have been reported [4]. Figures 1 and 2 show examples of both types.

The first type of printed label displayed the large "R" at left and "United States of America" on the top line with "No." on the bottom line. The second line, which was left blank on labels supplied to the Zone, was subsequently handstamped "CRISTOBAL. P.O.," after the label had been applied to the

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Fig. 2 Type 2 label on cover with corrected date

Mail Sale Announcement

The 2011-12 Mail Sale Catalog should be in the mail to members in early January. Closing date for bids is estimated to be mid- to late February. The Sale is a major source of funds to support the publications the CZSG produces. Members are encouraged to participate by placing bids.

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Articles and information for publication should be sent to the Editor. Scans are preferred for figures of stamps or covers; however enlarged high quality photocopies are sometimes acceptable. Illustrations must show clearly against black backgrounds. If you need help, write or EMAIL the Editor. The author must advise the Editor if the article has been published or is being considered for publication elsewhere.

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Commonly used abbreviations

BEP = Bureau of Engraving & Printing

CZ Stamps = Canal Zone Stamps, by Gilbert N. Plass, Geoffrey Brewster, and Richard H. Salz, The Canal Zone Study Group, 1986

CZP = The Canal Zone Philatelist

Entwistle = The Postal Markings of the Canal Zone, 2nd Edition, by Lawson P. Entwistle, The Canal Zone Study Group, 1992

French = Encyclopedia of Plate Varieties on U.S. Bureau-Printed Postage Stamps, by Loran C. French, Bureau Issues Association, 1979

Scott = Scott's Specialized Catalogue of U.S. Stamps, current edition

Tatelman = Canal Zone Postage Stamps, by E.I.P. Tatelman, Canal Zone Postal Service, Mt. Hope, CZ, 1961

ABNCo = American Bank Note Company

NPM = National Postal Museum of the Smithsonian Institution

Journal citations are *Journal Name, Volume No.*, Pages.
Anything without a byline is written by the Editor.

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Scott 2012 Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps
by Jim Crumpacker

Of the 85 or so price changes in the 2012 Scott vs. 2011, decliners in 2012 beat out gainers by around 3 to 1. While the decreases were mostly auction-driven, negative showings happened in more than 20 cheaper stamps. The price increases in mint items were nearly all the result of an auction sale.

Price moves for stamps on cover numbered less than five, all down; postal stationery was entirely unchanged.

Useful additional information is now offered in the Proofs area at the end of the CZ section of the catalog. Each item has its die size (large or small) and paper description listed individually after an altered catalog number. These paper and die data were previously handled mostly by a footnote at section end in 2011. A few color improvements were noted; none of the prices changed in Proofs.

Some examples of these and other modifications are shown below via standard Scott pricing for NH/H unless otherwise noted.

| Scott No. | 2011 | 2012 |
|---------------------------------|------------|----------|
| 2, used | \$200.00 | \$190.00 |
| 9, ON of ZONE dropped, on cover | not listed | 325.00 |
| 15 (TG) | 2750.00 | 2500.00 |
| 22h, horiz. pair, imperf. vert | not priced | 5000.00 |
| 32d, double ovpt | not priced | 7000.00 |
| 47, used | 75.00 | 60.00 |
| 49, FDC | not priced | 1750.00 |
| 92a, CANAL inverted | 4000.00 | 6500.00 |
| 96, NH | 6.00 | 6.75 |
| J19, on cover | 47.50 | 42.50 |
| 09, hinged | 9.00 | 12.00 |

An outstanding job was done this year by the staff and editors at Scott Publishing.

Auctions
by Jim Crumpacker

Another dull period of auction activity was realized for Canal Zone philately in the third quarter July 1-Sept. 30, 2011. Results for some sample lots are listed below:

2, left PANAMA 2.25mm below bar, used, F-VF \$173 (\$500) Harmer-Schau
3, TG, H, F \$257 (\$400) Regency Superior
10 var., L of CANAL sideways, OG, H, a tiny soil spot o/w F \$633 Harmer-Schau
14b, CANAL ZONE inverted, OG, H, F \$150 (\$450) Harmer-Schau
22a, horiz. pair imperf. between, OG, HR, VF+ \$720 (\$1100) Spink Shreves
32, booklet pane of 6, handmade, OG, NH, perf. margins, barely F w/ part imprint \$276 (\$875) Harmer-Schau

Here are the names and addresses of the auction houses which undertook the sale of these lots:

Harmer-Schau Auction Galleries, Inc.
1333 N. McDowell Blvd., Suite B
Petaluma, CA 94954

Regency Superior
PO Box 8277
St. Louis, MO 63156

Spink Shreves Galleries
3100 Monticello Ave., Suite 925
Dallas, TX 75205

Plate Variety on Scott No. 93

by Richard D. Bates, Jr.

For as long as I have been interested in plate varieties, I have been intrigued by a variety that consists of an extraneous wedge-shaped mark listed in French's *Encyclopedia of Plate Varieties* as appearing on four positions of UR panes of plate 17446 of U.S. No. 569, which was one of the plates overprinted to produce CZ No. 93.

The extraneous marks were reported as early as 1932 (see for example, *Shift Hunter Letters*, Whole No. 47 and *Stamps Magazine* 2/18/33), but I have been unable so far to find reference to a Canal Zone stamp with this variety or to see an example on a CZ stamp.

The earliest reports speculated that the cause of these marks was the impact of a sharp object inflicting a recess in the steel. Subsequently Johl (*The United States Stamps of*



Fig. 1 Extraneous wedge-shaped mark on No. 93 (see right 30 on left stamp and to the left of right circle on right stamp)



Fig. 2 U.S. No. 569 block with pos. 1-6, 11-16 UR 17746 (Image courtesy of Jay Stotts)



Fig. 3 Plate proof at the National Postal Museum showing extraneous mark on pos. 2, 3, 5, 6, 7.
Marks on four of the positions had previously been circled in pencil (Image courtesy of Jim O'Donnell at the NPM)

the Twentieth Century, Vol. III, Max G. Johl, Lindquist, NY, 1935, pg. 134) and French (*The Stamp Lover*, Nov/Dec 1972, p. 180) have stated these were most likely caused by some foreign substance on the transfer roll which disappeared after pos. 6 was rocked in.

This article reports two discoveries. First, an example has now been found on a stamp overprinted CANAL ZONE. It occurs in a block with two of them, ironically on the two positions not in the plate block. Expanded images of pos. 2 and 3 from the block of 8 are shown in Fig. 1.

Second is the discovery that the variety should exist on one additional position not listed in French or the earlier literature.

Examples of these marks can be seen in the scan of the block shown in Fig. 2, which has kindly been supplied by Jay Stotts, who chairs the Committee on the 4th Bureau Issue of the United States Stamp Society.

When the plate proof for plate number 17446 at the National Postal Museum was examined, the extraneous marks as described by French were seen on pos. UR 2, 3, 5, and 6 of the plate proof; each had been circled in pencil at some time prior to my examining it, as shown in Fig. 3. In addition to the marks in the known pos. 2, 3 5, and 6, there is also an additional extraneous mark on pos. 7, not having been circled in pencil and not reported by the previous experts who studied this plate flaw and reported about its position. The flaw appears in different positions on the different stamps on the top row or UR 17746. On pos. 7 it is on the left side, not on the right as is the case of the others previously recorded.

I am interested in hearing from any reader who has an example of this variety on a CZ stamp, especially anyone who has an UR 17746 plate block and who can send me a scan showing whether it shows the variety on pos. 7.

Cristobal, CZ Paper Registry

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cover. The registry number was handwritten on the bottom line. Brougham [4] reported that 5,000 of the “Type 1” or “provisional” labels were supplied to the Zone, and noted that their usage seemed to be limited to the month of October, 1905.

The second type of paper label has “CRISTOBAL, C.Z.” preprinted on line 2. It appears that 10,000 of the “Type 2” labels were provided in sheets, since printed or machine-stamped numbers ranging from 10035 to 19100 are known. Their reported period of usage ranges between September and December, 1906. Between the two periods of paper label usage and after, handstamped rectangular exchange markings were applied to mailpieces. These bear either handwritten or numbering machine-applied registry numbers.

David Zemer provides a detailed discussion of the use of registry exchange labels at U.S. Exchange Offices, including Cristobal, C.Z. [5]. He noted that usage of all label types continued until early 1911. In a subsequent article, Zemer [6] reported that 14 paper Cristobal, C.Z. registry exchange labels had been recorded by Nick Lombardi [7] in a census project being undertaken by the Registered Mail Study Group of the United States Stamp Society (USSS).

Paper registry exchange labels received catalog recognition in the *2011 Scott Specialized* (p.369). They were assigned catalog numbers with the prefix “FX-.” The Cristobal labels were identified as FX-CZ1 (printed paper label type 2) and FX-CZ2 (type 1). On-cover catalog values were \$500 and \$625, respectively. An excellent article by Lombardi is included in the *2011 Scott Specialized* (pp. 366-368). At the time of publication, 38 covers bearing paper labels were reported for Cristobal (both types). The census of registry exchange labels has been continued by the USSS and may be viewed on its website, <http://regmail.usstamps.org/>.

The CZSG Metro Chapter has also been undertaking a “mini-project” to analyze and update the census data for the Cristobal, C.Z. labels. We have identified several additions to the census and have suggested several corrections to the USSS listings. The results of our efforts to date are shown in the accompanying table, which is an adaptation of the table on the USSS website. Specifically, we have re-ordered the census data by presenting the listings in increasing order of registry number. This re-ordering correlates, in general, with posting dates, particularly for the Type 2 labels. Most of the headings on the table are self-explanatory. The “REF” column refers to the census numbers assigned by the USSS in their listing. Blank spaces in this column represent new additions. The “COMMENTS” column is intended to capture additional source information, as well as comments applicable to the listings. Letters in this column (A,B,C...) represent current owner codes.

Based on our review and analysis of the updated census data, we have drawn several tentative conclusions:

1. There are now 46 examples recorded of the Cristobal, C.Z. paper registry exchange labels. The first 9 of these are the so-called “provisional” or “Type 1” labels. The other 37 are “Type 2” labels.
2. Label no. 6018 (CZ-19) is not included in the above totals because it dates from November 14, 1907, and as such is considered an outlier. It may be that this label was actually a handstamped rectangle (typical for the period) that had been misreported as a paper label. Its status should be

confirmed.

3. Label no. 14478 (CZ-28) is a fabrication. It appears on a cover (illustrated in *Tatelman*, p.91) dated March ?, 1905. As noted, the CZ Registry Service was not established until August, 1905. While the cover itself may be genuine, the label (which correlates to an October, 1906 usage) must have been added at a later date. This cover is not counted in the totals and should be excluded from the census.

4. Some additional corrections to the online USSS census are noted as follows: (a) census number CZ-16 has been removed, as it duplicates CZ-34, albeit with an incorrect date; (b) the posted dates for CZ-17, CZ-32, and CZ-39 have been corrected, as verified by the owner; (c) in some cases (see list), the origins have been corrected – primarily from “Ancon” to “Ancon Sta A.”

As noted, there is a general correlation between registry number and posting date for the paper exchange labels. This is more consistent for the Type 2 labels, with preprinted numbers, than the Type 1 labels, which had handwritten numbers.

The reported usage ranges for the paper Cristobal registry labels are extremely narrow: 10/10/05 – 10/28/05 (19 days) for Type 1 and 9/1/06 – 12/11/06 (102 days) for Type 2. In the absence of relevant, contemporaneous correspondence, it may be that the paper labels were undergoing trials or tests during these early days of the CZ Registry Service. The Type 1 labels had to be applied to the mailpiece, handstamped “CRISTOBAL P.O.” and registry number handwritten in. Undoubtedly, postal employees found it more convenient to use a handstamped rectangle that already contained the Cristobal, C.Z. name. Such handstamps were in use between the two paper label periods. Although the Type 2 labels obviated the need for any additional handstamping or registry number application, their use also fell out of favor. This was perhaps due to inefficiencies in applying gummed labels versus handstamping rectangular exchange marking. It is noted that registry numbers in handstamped labels after 1906 do not correlate well with posting dates. It may be that there were several numbering machines that were assigned to different clerks at the Cristobal Post Office to handle the burgeoning volume of registered mail.

As with any census project of this nature, this is a work-in-progress. Members are requested to communicate any new information, either from their collections or auction lots, to the CZSG Metro Chapter at camps@optonline.net. We will continue to update the census and report the results to USSS.

Acknowledgements

Thanks are hereby extended to the following individuals who provided new information and/or constructive suggestions for this article: Tom Brougham, Mike Demski, Irwin Gibbs, Nick Lombardi, Mike Ludeman, and David Zemer.

References

- [1] Brougham, Tom, *CZP* 13:17 (1977)
- [2] Brougham, Tom, *CZP* 13:31 (1977)
- [3] Brougham, Tom, *CZP* 14:8 (1978)
- [4] Brougham, Tom, *CZP* 14:9 (1978)
- [5] Zemer, David, *CZP* 38:40 (2002)
- [6] Zemer, David, *CZP* 44:1 (2008)
- [7] Lombardi, Nicholas, *The Collectors Club Philatelist*, November/December 2007, pp. 355-362

Table 1 Known Cristobal, CZ Paper Registry Exchange Labels

| LABEL # | POSTED | ORIGIN | DESTINATION | REF | COMMENT |
|--|------------|------------------|-------------------|-------|--|
| TYPE 1 - HANDSTAMPED "CRISTOBAL P.O." | | | | | |
| 572 | 10/16/1905 | Cristobal, CZ | Danvers, MA | CZ-26 | <i>Tatelman</i> p.91 |
| 794 | 10/11/1905 | Ancon, CZ | London | CZ-3 | Kugel Exhibit |
| 862 | 10/10/1905 | Ancon, CZ | San Francisco, CA | CZ-29 | B |
| 1014 | 10/13/1905 | Ancon, CZ | Moravia, NY | | D |
| 1032 | 10/14/1905 | Ancon Sta A, CZ | Everett, MA | | Z |
| 1158 | 10/16/1905 | Culebra, CZ | St. Louis, MO | CZ-24 | B |
| 1233 | 10/17/1905 | Culebra, CZ | Davton, TX | CZ-13 | Bennett 280 Lot 2068 |
| 1268 | 10/20/1905 | Ancon, CZ | Washington, DC | CZ-23 | Ex Salz |
| 1538 | 10/28/1905 | Corozal, CZ | Philadelphia, PA | CZ-22 | Ex Salz |
| TYPE 2 - PRINTED "CRISTOBAL, C.Z." | | | | | |
| 10035 | 9/1/1906 | Ancon Sta A, CZ | Birmingham, AL | CZ-15 | Harmer 2976 Lot 1724;G;corrected origin |
| 10037 | 9/1/1906 | Ancon, CZ | Washington, DC | CZ-35 | W |
| 10453 | 9/8/1906 | Ancon Sta A, CZ | Boston, MA | | Harmer 3000 Lot 1136 |
| 11520 | 9/18/1906 | Culebra, CZ | London | | B |
| 12137 | 9/24/1906 | La Boca, CZ | Montpelier, VT | CZ-17 | G; corrected date |
| 12290 | 9/28/1906 | Pedro Miguel, CZ | New York, NY | CZ-1 | Rumsey 14 Lot 1394 |
| 12291 | 9/28/1906 | Pedro Miguel, CZ | New York, NY | CZ-31 | C |
| 12458 | 10/1/1906 | Empire, CZ | Jamaica | CZ-20 | Ex Salz |
| 12674 | 10/3/1906 | Ancon, CZ | Boston, MA | CZ-36 | Kugel Exhibit |
| 12854 | 10/8/1906 | Ancon, CZ | Augusta, GA | CZ-25 | Ex Salz |
| 12858 | ? | ? | Washington, DC | CZ-9 | front only; Bennett 280 Lot 2071 |
| 12859 | 10/2/1906 | Ancon, CZ | New York, NY | CZ-6 | Alivezos 11/4/03 Lot 33 |
| 13089 | 10/8/1906 | Ancon, CZ | Boston, MA | CZ-37 | CZSG MS35 Lot 551 |
| 13093 | 10/8/1906 | Ancon, CZ | New Brunswick, NJ | | Bennett 337 Lot 3392 |
| 14420 | 10/19/1906 | La Boca, CZ | England | CZ-7 | eBay 4/18/04 |
| *14478 | 3/2/1905 | Ancon, CZ | New York, NY | CZ-28 | faked-predates registry system; <i>Tatelman</i> p.91 |
| 14564 | 10/23/1906 | Cristobal, CZ | Montpelier, VT | CZ-18 | G |
| 14681 | 10/28/1906 | Ancon Sta A, CZ | Boston, MA | CZ-33 | G; corrected origin |
| 14683 | 10/28/1906 | Ancon, CZ | Norfolk, VA | CZ-12 | Landau Exhibit |
| 14842 | 10/29/1906 | Bas Obispo, CZ | Vermont | CZ-4 | Kugel Exhibit |
| 14859 | 10/29/1906 | Empire, CZ | Jamaica | | D |
| 14994 | 10/30/1906 | Matachin, CZ | Silver City, NM | CZ-10 | Bennett 280 Lot 2069 |
| 14995 | 10/31/1906 | Matachin, CZ | Silver City, NM | | D |
| 15087 | 11/2/1906 | Tabernilla, CZ | Montpelier, VT | CZ-27 | Ex Salz; <i>Tatelman</i> p.99 |
| 15117 | 11/2/1906 | Ancon Sta A, CZ | New York, NY | | B |
| 15339 | 11/5/1906 | Ancon, CZ | Washington, DC | | eBay July 2011 |
| 15498 | 11/8/1906 | Bas Obispo, CZ | NM | CZ-2 | Kugel Exhibit |
| 15615 | 11/10/1906 | Cristobal, CZ | London | CZ-39 | Nutmeg 184 Lot 5368 |
| 16184 | 11/15/1906 | Ancon, CZ | Boston, MA | CZ-11 | Bennett 280 Lot 2070 |
| 16220 | 11/15/1906 | Empire, CZ | Akron, OH | | Z |
| 17092 | 11/23/1906 | Ancon Sta A, CZ | Boston, MA | CZ-34 | G;duplicates CZ-16 -deleted; corrected origin |
| 17099 | 11/23/1906 | Ancon, CZ | Washington, DC | CZ-14 | Ex Brett |
| 17179 | 11/24/1906 | Ancon Sta A, CZ | St. Louis, MO | CZ-39 | eBay 5/27/10; corrected date and origin |
| 17214 | 11/25/1906 | Pedro Miguel, CZ | New York, NY | CZ-8 | Bennett 280 Lot 1641 |
| 17229 | 11/26/1906 | Bohio, CZ | Montpelier, VT | CZ-21 | Ex Salz |
| 18611 | 12/7/1906 | Ancon, CZ | Montpelier, VT | CZ-32 | C; corrected date |
| 18675 | 12/8/1906 | La Boca, CZ | Montpelier, VT | CZ-30 | B |
| 19100 | 12/11/1906 | Empire, CZ | Seattle, WA | CZ-5 | Kugel Exhibit |
| **6018 | 11/14/1907 | Ancon, CZ | San Francisco, CA | CZ-19 | Ex Salz; late usage or misreported as paper? |

* should be deleted

** should be reconfirmed

Rev 11/30/2011

J. Wendell Greene Tribute and Lindbergh Day Observance by Alan P. Bentz

(Editor's note: From time to time, the CZP will run stories about interesting Canal Zone personalities who, while not necessarily primarily related to philately, have some interesting historical significance to the Zone. This article falls in that category.)

J. Wendell Greene (Fig. 1) was born in DuBois, PA in 1895, the third child of William L. and Jane Greene. Mr. Greene, accompanied by his family, went to the Canal Zone in 1907 to work in the Department of Tracks and Dumps in the Central Division of the Panama Railroad, and after two years, became the General Foreman of the Pedro Miguel locks.

Wendell joined the Canal Zone work force on May 5, 1909, and spent most of his life in the Canal Zone. This article describes some aspects of his life in the Canal Zone and his philatelic interests, including observance of Lindbergh Day.

Role in Liberty Loan Covers

Wendell was on the staff of the Cristobal Post Office in 1918 when the first ocean-to-ocean air mail flight was flown for the Fourth Liberty Loan Campaign. Due to the very high demand, Wendell and the staff worked long into the night processing philatelic covers. Fig. 2 shows a cover addressed to J. Wendell Greene, showing that he had himself subscribed to the loan.

The various campaigns to raise funds for the War involved transits (the next one on May 7, 1919 involved transit in a C-class submarine). Because of Wendell's accomplishments as a swimmer, "The suggestion has been made that J. Wendell Greene, who has done so much in tabulation and arranging the subscription at the Cristobal Post Office, and who is the champion long distance swimmer on the Isthmus, should swim through the Canal with the last subscriptions [since he couldn't carry them all] for the next loan and this he would cheerfully do." [1]. Wendell was half of the first duo to swim the length of the Panama Canal. He and J. R. Bingaman applied to the Secretary of War for permission to swim the length of the Panama Canal on the premise that the "honor" should go to a Canal employee. Governor George W. Goethals granted permission on August 18, 1914 – just three days after



Fig. 1 J. Wendell Greene

the Canal opened to world commerce. The two men swam in segments as they had time, and completed their swim on October 18 with a total swimming time of 26 hours and 34 minutes. They were accompanied by boats and timekeepers, and the newspapers reported that they swam it in less time than many people would take to walk the distance.

Lindbergh's Latin American Goodwill Tour and Lindbergh Day

In 1928, Charles A. Lindbergh made a Latin American Goodwill Tour, which served also as a survey flight for the first foreign contract mail the following year. To celebrate Lindbergh's arrival, Panama issued two stamps – a 5c blue and 2c red overprinted *Homenaje a Lindbergh*. Wendell prepared covers for the arrival of Lindbergh with various combinations of these stamps. He also prepared two other sets: one for the celebration of Lindbergh Day on the Pacific side of the Isthmus on January 11; the other for Lindbergh Day on the Atlantic side on January 12. There were extensive parades and dignitaries greeting Lindbergh on both sides [3].

After the Pacific side celebration, Lindbergh flew to the Atlantic Side to be received at the Municipal Palace before the Parade.

Wendell prepared at least 20 covers. Based on the times of cancellation, it appears that he hand-carried the covers to each post office to have them serviced. The road from the Pacific side ended at Gamboa. To get to the Atlantic side, one had to go by train. The first large town there was Gatun.

Other than the stamps used, all of the covers were virtually the same, with a typed cachet. Covers from two towns, Gamboa and Cristobal, are heretofore unreported, and are shown for the first time in Figs. 6 and 7. The earliest cancel in his set on the Pacific side was in Balboa at 10:30 AM. It was followed by Ancon at 11:30 AM, Pedro Miguel at 12:30 PM, and Gamboa at 1:00 PM.

Also on January 11th, he obtained RMS in both directions on trains 3 and 4. The even numbered trains were northbound;



Fig. 3 Lindbergh landing in Panama



Fig. 4 Parade with hordes of admirers



Fig. 5 Lindbergh landing for Atlantic side celebration.

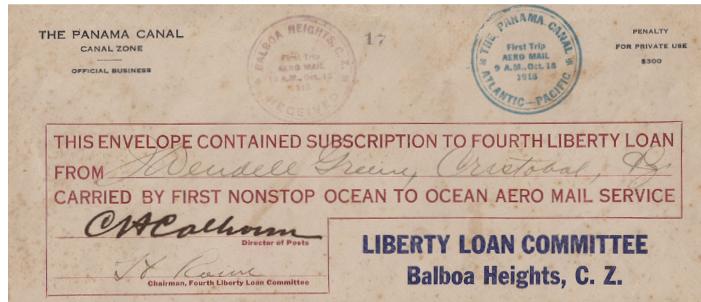


Fig. 2 Liberty Loan flight cover

the odd numbered trains were southbound.

The first cover cancelled on the Atlantic side was at Gatun at 8:00AM. It was followed by Cristobal at 8:20 AM, the Coco Solo Naval Base at 1:00 PM, and France Field at 2:30 PM.

The following year, Lindbergh flew the first flights to the Canal Zone and back under Foreign Air Mail Route (FAM-5). Wendell participated in that as well with a typed cachet, and the official cachet added. He sent covers from Miami to Cristobal and return covers – including one from Panama (the so-called “outlaw” cover) – all covers having been flown at least partway by Lindbergh.

Civil Service and Other Posts

After working in the postal system, Wendell became the Paymaster (Disbursing Officer) on October 1, 1945, a post he held until June 30, 1948. Wendell ultimately became Treasurer of the Panama Canal on July 1, 1948, a post he held until retirement on September 30, 1952, at which time it was the Panama Canal Company, the Panama Canal and the Panama Railroad having merged on July 1, 1951.

Wendell was a member of the National Society of Public Accountants. Among his many accomplishments, he received the Isthmian Canal Commission Service Medal of 1912; was a Managing Committee member of the Balboa CZ YMCA; served as treasurer of the American Red Cross; and was awarded the USO Certificate of Distinguished Service in 1947. Upon retirement, he and his wife Mildred moved to Hendersonville, NC, where they spent their remaining years in pleasant surroundings with many CZ friends.

Acknowledgements:

The author is indebted to Fred Sill, who grew up living next door to the Greenes. He provided Wendell's obituary from the local Hendersonville newspaper, and provided some interesting reminiscences of Wendell and the Greene family. The author is also indebted to Allen L. Greene of Portland, OR, surviving nephew of Wendell Greene, for letters and information included in this article.

References:

- [1] Plass, Gilbert *CZP* 15:18 (1979).
- [2] Obituary of J. Wendell Greene, *Times-News*, Hendersonville, NC, December 18, 1990.
- [3] The author is indebted to Robert J. Karrer for the photographs of Lindbergh's 1928 tour of Panama.



Fig. 6
Lindbergh Day –
Gamboa cancel



Fig. 7
Lindbergh Day –
Cristobal cancel

Handling of World War II Civil Official Business Mail in the Canal Zone: A Continuing Update By Paul Ammons

There are two updates and an observation to report on the series of articles first published in the 1st Q 2009 *CZP* (45:3) and updated in 3rd Q 2009 *CZP* (45:24-25), 1st Q 2010 *CZP* (46:6-7) and 4th Q 2010 *CZP* (46:42).

The latest reported use (LRU) of outgoing civil official business mail that bears no evidence of censorship in the Canal Zone is now January 24, 1942, eight days later than previously reported. Later usages prior to January 31, 1942 remain to be reported.

The earliest reported use (ERU) of the censor-like 'OFFICIAL MAIL' handstamp is now October 22, 1942. The gap between the LRU of Broderick & Mayo (B&M) censor handstamp C2.2, currently October 17, 1942, and this censor-like handstamp is now only five days. I continue to look for documentation on the transition from censor station handstamp C2.2 to only local certification censor-like handstamps.

On January 31, 1942, the Panama Canal Executive Department required that "no official mail for points outside of the Canal Zone including the Republic of Panama . . . shall be forwarded directly to any post office . . . all official mail which bears postage stamps . . . shall be endorsed 'Contents Official' and initialed by the employee assigned to forwarding and identifying the mail" or "sealed and forwarded either to the Mailing Room, Balboa Heights or to the Sector Censor, Cristobal, under a sealed cover or in a sealed sack together with a statement accompanying the dispatch signed by the employee responsible stating that only official mail is enclosed."

Apparently, by observed usages, except for mail from the Special Engineering Division (SED), Diablo Heights, almost all civil official business mail bearing postage stamps and censor hand stamps S2.9, C2.1, and C2.2 do not have the local 'Contents Official' certification handstamp. The local certification handstamp is seen on both pre-printed SED official business envelopes and covers with a handstamped SED return address (Fig. 1). Sometime after October 22, 1942, even this practice was ended by the SED.

Please contact me by mail at P.O. Box 1311, College Station, TX 77841 or by email at pammons@tamu.edu if you can provide scans of any of the following: additional covers with censor handstamp S2.9; covers that are earlier than any of the currently reported ERU or later than the currently reported LRU noted in the articles; or covers from offices other than the SED with the 'Contents Official' handstamp.

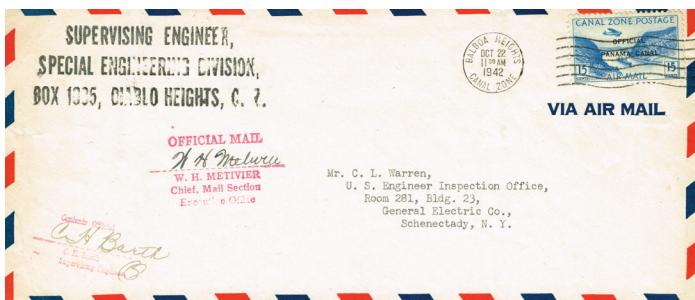


Fig. 1 Earliest reported use of the censor-like 'OFFICIAL MAIL' handstamp and with 'Contents Official' handstamp

Study Group News

Secretary's Report

Mike Drabik

P.O. Box 281, Bolton, MA 01740-0281
Email: czsgsecretary@gmail.com

As of August 31, 2011, there are 574 members of the CZSG whose 2011 membership dues have been received and recorded.

Please join me in welcoming our newest members (all having already paid their 2012 CZSG dues!):

Antonio Len-Rios, CZSG # 2657 Louis Zeeldorf, CZSG # 2659
Robert Banas, CZSG # 2658 Bill Stahl, CZSG #2660

We have been notified of changes of addresses for the following CZSG members:

Eric Farr, CZSG # 162 Richard Larkin, CZSG # 588
Geoffrey Brewster, CZSG # 451 David Borghi, CZSG # 1003

The following member has resigned from the CZSG:

Donald Kenmonth, CZSG # 2563

Unfortunately 30 CZSG members listed below have not paid their 2011 CZSG membership dues. These members will be designated as resigned and will be removed from the membership list of the CZSG. They will not receive any further issues of the *CZP* or be entitled to any benefits of being a member of the CZSG. If any active members of

the CZSG have contact with or know these members, please encourage them to contact me with their dues payments.

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Santiago Acosta, CZSG # 2604 | Frank Kasper, Jr., CZSG # 1160 |
| Betty Annis, CZSG # 2506 | Walter Lowrie, CZSG # 1755 |
| Paul Bennett, CZSG # 2627 | William Mahaffey, CZSG # 2304 |
| LeRoy Bertsch, CZSG # 2444 | Francisco Perez C., CZSG # 2531 |
| Thomas Buckley, CZSG # 2595 | Jim Raper, CZSG # 2609 |
| John Cleaver, CZSG # 2611 | Phillip Salmon, CZSG # 2430 |
| Henry Dolim, Jr., CZSG # 2539 | Andrew Sapieszko, CZSG # 2242 |
| Robert Eckstein, CZSG # 960 | Robert Sutton, CZSG # 2129 |
| Robert Edmondson, CZSG # 2608 | Albert Thirkill, CZSG # 2560 |
| William Falberg, CZSG # 2395 | Maj. Edgar Titus, CZSG # 1778 |
| Norman Fox, CZSG # 139 | Ralph Trimble, CZSG # 2612 |
| Anthony Guida CZSG # 2382 | Mirosaw Umbras, CZSG # 2624 |
| Thomas Herbert, CZSG # 2447 | Fabio Vaccarezza, CZSG # 2598 |
| Jaun Jimenez, CZSG # 2537 | Frank Wheeler, CZSG # 2564 |
| Steve Jolly, CZSG # 2326 | Paul Worth, CZSG # 2541 |

As always it is with great sadness and condolences to their families that we recognize the passing of our fellow CZSG members: William Kuttner, CZSG # 161 and Robert Dillon, CZSG # 2489.

Lastly as we approach the Holiday Season and end of 2012, my family and I wish everyone in the CZSG and their families great happiness and joy during this time of year and in the coming New Year of 2012.

Treasurer's Report

Financial Statement for the Year 2010

Richard F. Larkin

| | | |
|------------------------------------|---|------------------|
| Revenue: | 2010 dues earned | \$ 9,186 |
| | Sales of CZSG publications | 133 |
| | Advertisements in <i>CZP</i> | 280 |
| | Interest | <u>942</u> |
| | (Mail Sale - no sale in 2010) | |
| | Total revenue | <u>10,541</u> |
| Expenses: | <i>CZP</i> - printing, postage, editorial | 9,453 |
| | UPSS postal stationery handbooks | 82 |
| | Membership, publicity, administration | 84 |
| | Member recruitment advertisement - Amos Press | <u>306</u> |
| | Total expenses | <u>9,925</u> |
| | Revenue over (under) expenses for the year | 616 |
| Net assets as of: | | |
| 1 January | | <u>82,913</u> |
| 31 December: | | |
| Cash in interest-bearing account | \$ 91,464 | |
| Less 2011 dues received in advance | <u>(7,935)</u> | |
| | | <u>\$ 83,529</u> |

Except for dues, transactions are recorded on the cash basis. As of December 31, there were no outstanding unrecorded bills. Note 1: Dues are reported as income in the year to which they relate. Note 2: Proceeds from and expenses of the Mail Sale are reported in the year the sale closes. Note 3: No amounts are recorded for the value of time spent by board members, officers, mail sale manager, editor, publications manager, and other volunteers.



Photo by Bill Kuttner

William F. Kuttner

Long-time CZSG member Bill Kuttner passed away on October 21, 2011 in Rockville, MD, at the age of 91. He was CZSG member No. 161, and was one of a group of CZSG members who met at the Robert Treat Hotel in Newark, NJ, in September 1968 to revive the CZSG. He then served as Treasurer of the CZSG from that time until 1982, when he was succeeded by Dick Larkin, our current treasurer.

Bill organized the Potomac Chapter of the CZSG, which met in his condominium in Chevy Chase, MD, for many years.

In addition to his interest in stamps, Canal Zone and British North America in particular, Bill had strong interests in the opera and in photography, particularly of the National Parks and other areas of natural beauty. The photo above is one of Bill's, showing an area on Monhegan Island, ME, which he particularly loved to visit.

EKU for 115c

By Gary B. Weiss and Richard D. Bates, Jr.

CZ Stamps states that No. 115 was issued in January 1933, and that handmade booklet panes (No. 115c) appeared and were used in early 1933. Full booklet panes on cover are scarce items; those with tabs scarcer still.

The cover shown in Fig. 1 moves the EKU date for No. 115c earlier by about 8 months than the date on the cover illustrated by Gil Plass in his 1983 article about handmade booklets (*CZP* 19:25). That cover is the basis for the Oct.



Fig. 1 Cover with handmade booklet pane 115c addressed to George Brett dated January 29, 1935

7, 1935, EKU for this pane as listed in the table in Dick Larkin's article in 2008 (*CZP* 44:11.) This date is still approximately two years after the possible EKU defined by the statement in *CZ Stamps*. The January 29, 1935 date on this cover can be ascertained from the markings on the back shown in Fig. 2.

This cover was found on eBay and is addressed (perhaps self-addressed) to George Brett in Spirit Lake, Iowa. It was sent to him by the Postmaster in Pedro Miguel where some of the 115c booklets were assembled.



Fig. 2 Reverse side of cover in Fig. 1

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President's Report

David Zemer

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sosahill@hotmail.com

Cristobal Exchange Labels

The CZSG Metro Group has started a new project: documenting the known Cristobal Exchange Labels on-cover (see page 37). I received an early copy of their work and was lucky to have contributed a scan of one that they did not have. These covers are extremely difficult to find but now that we have an up-to-date checklist I hope that other members can add to it.

Congratulations to the Metro Group for taking the initiative in getting this very interesting and important research going again.

New Maduro Post Card Price Record Set?

The 1989 publication of *A Panama Patchwork Revisited* by Karrer and Wilde covering the Maduro Picture Post Cards started many of us collecting these early Panama and Canal Zone cards. There are thousands of different scenes and they generally cost between \$5 and \$15 but I have known some to have fetched in the \$50+ range. In October of this year an early card, printed by *Maduro é hijos*, started a bidding frenzy on eBay and finished with a price of \$458 which is the highest that I am aware of.



The card has a Rome, Italy arrival date of April 7, 1904. Three different collectors bid more than \$200 for the card. The stamps were two 1c ones from Panama and although nice did not seem justify this price. PPCs are now a medal category in APS exhibits and earlier this year our member Jerry Craig won a Silver Medal at NOJEX with his outstanding exhibit of early Panama Canal cards.

Fig. 1 Maduro PPC with Rome arrival date



Fig. 2 Address side of PPC in Fig. 1

If you are interested in these early cards, be on the lookout for a second-hand copy of *Panama Patchwork* for sale on eBay or elsewhere as it has been out of print for more than 20 years. Once you have this handbook you might find yourself looking a little harder at the picture side of your old postcards.

Executive Railcars and the "Yellow Peril"

by William P. McLaughlin, Alan P. Bentz,
and Richard D. Bates, Jr.

The article by Alan Bentz about Gerald Bliss in the 1st Q 2011 *CZP* included a photo of Bliss standing on the porch of the Culebra Post Office. In the left foreground of that photo was a vehicle that prompted comments by readers that inspired us to put together a brief story about it and others like it, even though it is not particularly philatelic in nature. The image is from a photo in the National Postal Museum, which has been cropped and expanded, and is shown below.



Fig. 1
Motor car No.
6 at Culebra
Post Office in
1912 [1]

People traveled on the Panama Railroad in at least three different ways. Common labor traveled on labor cars converted from either 40' standard flat cars or from the old French 6-meter dump cars. The middle echelon American employees rode the passenger trains of the Panama Railroad. The executives at the headquarters at Culebra or Balboa Heights made their inspection trips using a fleet of gasoline-powered motor cars that after mid-1914 were housed in a garage at Balboa, shown in Fig. 2.



Fig. 2
The home for the
motor cars at
Balboa [2,3]

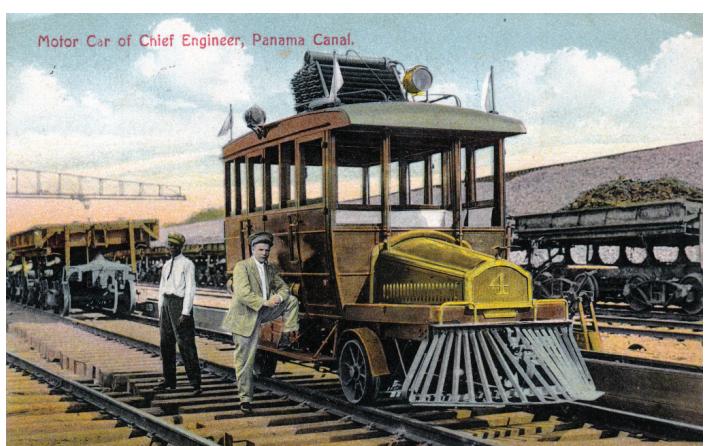


Fig. 3 PPC The "Motor Car of Chief Engineer" [4]

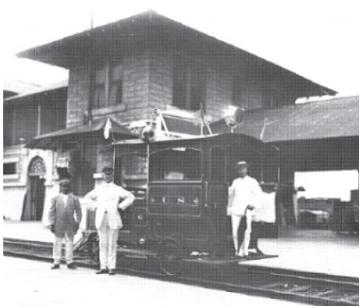


Fig. 4 Motor car No. 6 at the Gatun train station [2]



Fig. 5 Motor car No. 8 at Summit [3]

It was called a garage because these were motor cars; it was located just west of the Balboa station and below the Administration Building, also seen in the background of Fig. 2. The motormen were known as chauffeurs. The garage shows smaller motor cars such as No. 6 to the left, and No. 1, a larger motor car at the right. This car is also seen in Fig. 3, a scan of a color PPC entitled the "Motor Car of the Chief Engineer, Panama Canal."



Fig. 6
Motor Car
No. 1 taking
oil in front
of Garage
at Balboa,
1918 [3]

These were weird and wonderful contraptions with the six-cylinder gasoline engine's radiator perched on the roof. The passenger car body towered over the tiny gasoline motor housing and was styled in the best tradition of the previous century.

Because they ran on the Panama Rail Road they complied with the rule book requirements for designating a train. They had marker lamps, sockets for flags for daytime operation designating the class of train, headlights, and a compressed-

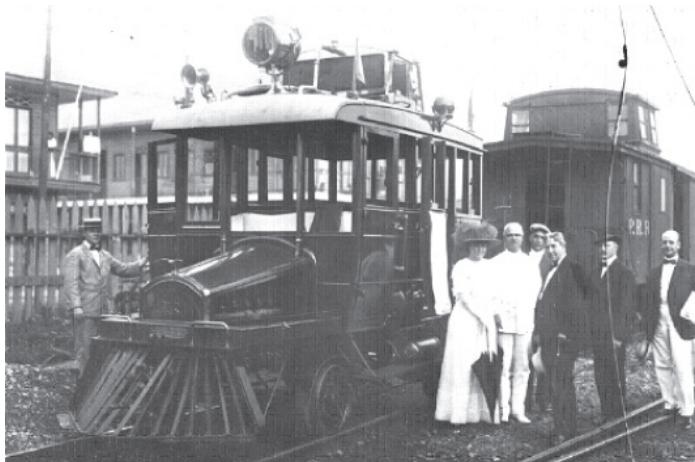


Fig. 7 The "Yellow Peril" with Colonel Goethals in white standing between Secretary of War and Mrs. Lindley Garrison in 1913 [2]

air horn.

The motor car depicted in Figs. 1 and 4 is No. 6, the smallest of those built by the Canal shops. Car No. 8, also built at the Gorgona shops, cost \$3913, and is shown in Fig. 5. Larger cars were built by the Stover Motor Car Company of Freeport, Illinois during 1908.

No. 6 was hardly the most famous of these motor cars. That distinction is reserved for car No. 1 (which was originally designated No. 4 as depicted in Fig. 3).

Car No. 1 was used by Colonel Goethals, Chief Engineer, who regularly oversaw the work at the various construction sites by traveling in the motor car known as the "Yellow Peril." This activity is described beautifully by Farnam Bishop [5]:

Every morning in the week, [Col. Goethals] goes out on the line, not as his French predecessor did, in a private car drawn by a locomotive, but a swift automobile mounted on flanged wheels, that looks like a taxicab disguised as a switch-engine. This motor-car is painted in the regulation light yellow of the Panama Railroad passenger-coaches, and you can scare a shirker out of a wet-season's growth by yelling, "Here comes the Yellow Peril!" But when the Yellow Peril – also known as the "Brain Wagon" – does come by, as likely as not it is empty; for the Colonel often drops off to take a closer look at a steam shovel, or a group of compressed-air drills, or a new drainage-ditch, or anything else that has attracted his attention. Presently he will come past, perched on top of a loaded dirt train, or walking at a good swinging pace over rough railroad ties and slippery fragments of splintered rock.

Colonel Goethals is shown standing next to the "Yellow Peril" with dignitaries in 1913 in Fig. 7.

References:

- [1] George Brett archives at the National Postal Museum; scan courtesy of Jim O'Donnell.
- [2] Provided by Bill McLaughlin; see http://www.czimages.com/CZMemories/Motor%20Cars/mc_index.htm.
- [3] <http://www.panamarailroad.org/pg2b.html>; photo provided by A. M. Bouché.
- [4] Scan provided by Robert Karrer; see also *ICCJ*, August 2011.
- [5] Farnam Bishop, *Panama, Past and Present*, The Century Company, New York, 1913.

Other sources of information:

- [6] Frederic J. Haskin, *The Panama Canal*, Doubleday, Page & Co. 1913.
- [7] Charles S. Small, *Rails to the Diggings*, Railroad Monographs, Greenwich, CT, 1981.
- [8] <http://www.usace.army.mil/History/hv/Pages/107-Panama-Canal.aspx>

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Scott No. 33a With Double Overprint Reading L/E by Richard D. Bates, Jr.

CZ Stamps describes the 5c stamp with double overprint, No. 33a, as one of the easiest Canal Zone errors to obtain, as 200 copies were issued and most were saved by collectors.

One variety that should exist has not been reported. The Checklist includes CZSG 33.1, a setting with E of ZONE under the L in CANAL. Fig. 1 shows a copy of 33a with the overprint double, both of which have the E under L variety.



Fig. 1
Scott 33 with double overprint, both with E of ZONE under L of CANAL

The appearance of the double overprint on examples of 33a is actually quite variable, as can be seen on the examples from a block of 20 in Figs. 2a and 2b. On some of the stamps in this block, the two overprints are distinct and separate (see Fig. 2a, which is from the upper left part of the block), but on others from the right side of the same block (see Fig. 2b),



Fig. 2a
Examples of 33a from pos. 1 and 2 of the block of 20 with two distinct CANAL ZONE overprints



Fig. 2b
Example of 33a from pos. 9 and 10 of the block of 20 with barely displaced double overprints

the two overprints are so nearly exactly superimposed that they can barely be distinguished. This is demonstrated by the blow-up of the CANAL part of the overprint from pos. 10 which is shown in Fig. 3. On this stamp, the only sign of the double overprint is that the letters, particularly the serifs at the bottom, are thicker than normal.



Fig. 3
Expanded version of the doubled CANAL from pos. 10

Back to Canal Zone Basics: Newly Discovered Gutter Snipes on Canal Zone Stamps by Richard D. Bates, Jr. and Gary B. Weiss

In the category of "Errors, Freaks, and Oddities," errors on Canal Zone stamps that get listings in the *Scott Specialized Catalogue* generally command the most attention. Freaks and oddities on Canal Zone stamps may get less attention, but they are items of interest that can still be found at moderate prices in dealers' stocks and on the internet, including examples unrecognized as varieties when offered.

Examples in this category of freaks and oddities include gutter snipes, which are stamps that include the adjacent selvage or gutter between left and right panes or top and bottom panes of sufficient width to include perforations on both sides of the gutter. These arise from miscutting when a sheet of stamps is separated into panes. Previously gutter snipes have been the subject of several reports in the *CZP* (see *CZP* 34:26 (1998); *CZP* 36:7 (2000); and *CZP* 44:48 (2008)).

There are now five new discoveries, illustrated in Fig. 1, to add to the list of known gutter snipes. These and any new reports of additional examples will be included in a future *CZP* with an updated table of known gutter snipes on Canal Zone stamps.



Fig. 1
Newly reported Scott 33a with double overprint, both with E of ZONE under L of CANAL

CZSG Meeting Announcement
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Atlanta, GA
Sat., Jan. 28, 2012 at 1 PM

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